



15750 U.S. PTO

031204

PTO/SB/05 (01-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0032

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UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL (Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b))	Attorney Docket No.	2718.3074.002
	First Inventor	Tadoru Suga
	Title	Apparatus For...
	Express Mail Label No.	EV185236753US

APPLICATION ELEMENTS See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.	ADDRESS TO: Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria VA 22313-1450
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1. ☒ Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17)
(Submit an original and a duplicate for fee processing)
2. ☒ Applicant claims small entity status.
See 37 CFR 1.27.
3. ☒ Specification [Total Pages 11]
(preferred arrangement set forth below)
 - Descriptive title of the invention
 - Cross Reference to Related Applications
 - Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D
 - Reference to sequence listing, a table, or a computer program listing appendix
 - Background of the Invention
 - Brief Summary of the Invention
 - Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed)
 - Detailed Description
 - Claim(s)
 - Abstract of the Disclosure
4. ☒ Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total Sheets 6]
5. Oath or Declaration [Total Sheets 3]
 - a. ☐ Newly executed (original or copy)
 - b. ☒ Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d))
(for continuation/divisional with Box 18 completed)
 - i. ☐ **DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)**
Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) name in the prior application, see 37 CFR 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).
6. ☐ Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76

7. ☐ CD-ROM or CD-R in duplicate, large table or Computer Program (Appendix)
8. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (if applicable, all necessary)
 - a. ☐ Computer Readable Form (CRF)
 - b. Specification Sequence Listing on:
 - i. ☐ CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or
 - ii. ☐ Paper
 - c. ☐ Statements verifying identity of above copies

ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS

9. ☒ Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s))
10. ☐ 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement ☐ Power of Attorney
(when there is an assignee)
11. ☐ English Translation Document (if applicable)
12. ☒ Information Disclosure ☐ Copies of IDS
Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 Citations
13. ☒ Preliminary Amendment
14. ☒ Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503)
(Should be specifically itemized)
15. ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
(if foreign priority is claimed)
16. ☐ Nonpublication Request under 35 U.S.C. 122
(b)(2)(B)(i). Applicant must attach form PTO/SB/35 or its equivalent.
17. ☒ Other: Revocation of Power of Attorney:.....
Acceptance for Power of Attorney:.....

18. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in the first sentence of the specification following the title, or in an Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76:

☐ Continuation ☒ Divisional ☐ Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No.: 10/034,102.....

Prior application information:

Examiner TRAN, LOUIS B.Art Unit: 3721

For CONTINUATION OR DIVISIONAL APPS only; The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 5b, is considered a part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference. The incorporation can only be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts.

19. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

☒ Customer Number: 23399 OR ☐ Correspondence address below

Name

Address

City

State

Zip Code

Country

Telephone

Fax

Name (Print/Type) William H. GriffithRegistration No. (Attorney/Agent) 16,706

Signature

Date

March 12, 2004

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.53(b). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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22387 U.S. PTO
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PTO/SB/17 (10-03)
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FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2004

Effective 10/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

☒ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$ 385.00

Complete if Known

Application Number N/A
Filing Date Filed Herewith
First Named Inventor Tadoru Suga
Examiner Name N/A
Art Unit N/A
Attorney Docket No. 2718.3074.002

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

☒ Check ☐ Credit card ☐ Money Order ☐ Other ☐ None

☒ Deposit Account:

Deposit Account Number 50-0852
Deposit Account Name Reising, Ethington

The Director is authorized to: (check all that apply)

☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below ☒ Credit any overpayments

☒ Charge any additional fee(s) or any underpayment of fee(s)

☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account.

FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING FEE

Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1001	2001	770	385	Utility filing fee	385
1002	2002	340	170	Design filing fee	
1003	2003	530	265	Plant filing fee	
1004	2004	770	385	Reissue filing fee	
1005	2005	160	80	Provisional filing fee	
SUBTOTAL (1)					(\$ 385.00

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE

Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid
4	-20** = 0	X 0	= 0
1	-3** = 0	X 0	= 0
Multiple Dependent		0	= 0

Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description
1202	2202	18	9	Claims in excess of 20
1201	2201	86	43	Independent claims in excess of 3
1203	2203	290	145	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
1204	2204	86	43	** Reissue independent claims over original patent
1205	2205	18	9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent

SUBTOTAL (2) (\$ 0.00

**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

FEE CALCULATION (continued)

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

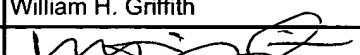
Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1051	2051	130	65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
1052	2052	50	25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
1053	2053	130	130	Non-English specification	
1812	2812	2,520	2,520	For filing a request for <i>ex parte</i> reexamination	
1804	2804	920*	920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
1805	2805	1,840*	1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
1251	2251	110	55	Extension for reply within first month	
1252	2252	420	210	Extension for reply within second month	
1253	2253	950	475	Extension for reply within third month	
1254	2254	1,480	740	Extension for reply within fourth month	
1255	2255	2,010	1,005	Extension for reply within fifth month	
1401	2401	330	165	Notice of Appeal	
1402	2402	330	165	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
1403	2403	290	145	Request for oral hearing	
1451	2451	1,510	1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
1452	2452	110	55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
1453	2453	1,330	665	Petition to revive - unintentional	
1501	2501	1,330	665	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
1502	2502	480	240	Design issue fee	
1503	2503	640	320	Plant issue fee	
1460	2460	130	130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
1807	2807	50	50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)	
1806	2806	180	180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
8021	28021	40	40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
1809	2809	770	385	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))	
1810	2810	770	385	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))	
1801	2801	770	385	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
1802	2802	900	900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	

Other fee (specify)

*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

SUBTOTAL (3) (\$ 0.00

SUBMITTED BY

Name (Print/Type) William H. Griffith
Registration No. 16,706
Telephone 248-689-3500
Signature 
Date March 12, 2004

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

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If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Tadoru Suga)
) Docket No.: 2718.3074.002
For: Apparatus for Continuously Forming)
Vacuum Packaged Body)

PRELIMINARY COMMENTS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

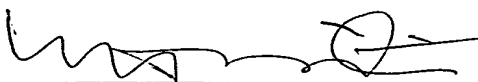
Dear Sir:

Contrary to the apparatus of applicant's claim 1, Mugnai (4,601,159) discloses a structure wherein a sub-vacuum line for the separate-opening of the upper and lower edges 9a, 9b of a cut portion of a tube film and main-vacuum line for directly sucking air from the tube film of which the cut portion has been separate-opened are integrally connected inside seal jaws 14, 15. Therefore, the pressure of air evacuated from the tube film affects the level of vacuum in the sub-vacuum line inside the seal jaws 14, 15. This poses a drawback in that the force for separate-opening of the tube film is weakened in a short time, and evacuation of air cannot effectively be performed.

Mugnai (4,541,224) discloses a structure wherein negative air pressure for evacuating air inside a bag sucks air inside troughs 27, 28, thereby to open the mouth of the bag. Thus, the mouth of the bag is closed as the air pressure lowers, posing a drawback that rarified air remaining inside the bag cannot be completely evacuated.

Respectfully submitted,

REISING, ETHINGTON,
BARNES, KISSELLE, P.C.



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